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****PHOTO ADVISORY****

Sen. Cropsey presents tribute to 2006 Corrections Officer of the Year Eric Jones

LANSING—State Sen. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, today presented a Senate tribute to Eaton County resident Eric Jones, who has been named 2006 Corrections Officer of the Year for his consistent and conscientious work for the corrections department and his work in the community.

“A corrections officer works with dangerous people day in and day out for society’s safety,” said Cropsey. “It is a difficult, often thankless job, and Officer Jones has shown remarkable passion for this important assignment and for working with young people to prevent them from making wrong choices.”

Jones was named Officer of the Year by the State Standards Committee of the Michigan Correctional Officers’ Training Council. The tribute recognized Jones as “a shining example of a person with a true commitment to the community and to its people” and for demonstrating “sound judgment in emergency situations.”

Jones, who currently works at Deerfield Correctional Facility in Ionia, is a seven-year veteran of the corrections department. He has worked as a trainer at Deerfield Correctional, has created ways to more effectively accomplish his assignments, and is a member of the Minority Advisory Panel.

Officer Jones is also involved in gang intervention and speaks throughout the country addressing students on the danger of gangs. He has founded a mentoring program for inner-city children to improve their self-esteem, school attendance and behavior in school. In addition, Jones provides a scholarship for an at-risk high school senior each year.

A photo of Sen. Cropsey presenting the Senate tribute to corrections officer Eric Jones is available at:

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Cropsey/Cropsey.htm>

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